

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25.

His Majesty the King

Visited the flag-ship *Republic* on Thursday afternoon, accompanied by His Ministers and Staff Officers. On arrival at the wharf His Majesty met and received by Mr. Davies, Acting British Commissioner, and escorted to the Admiral's barge, which, by the way, is the same that the Prince of Wales had in his Mediterranean cruise. The royal party occupied two boats, which were towed out to the ship, lying two miles away. On passing the French war steamer *Vaudreuil*, her yards were manned in honor of the King. On reaching the flag-ship, the King was received with a royal salute and manned yards, the Royal Standard flying at her mainmast-head. Admiral Hillyar, Captain Conne, and their officers showed every attention to their royal guest, with an exactness for which British Naval Officers are celebrated. After inspecting this splendid specimen of naval architecture, His Majesty was shown the drill practice, as well as the new method of firing of a ship's broadside of guns by electricity. These highly interesting and novel exhibitions occupied two or three hours, much to the gratification not only of His Majesty but all the party. Admiral Hillyar then invited his guests to a lunch, after which, about 4 1/2 P. M., His Majesty returned on shore. His departure being announced, as was his arrival, by a royal salute and manned yards.

On Friday, Admiral Hillyar entertained His Majesty the King, His Ex. the American Minister, His Ex. the Minister of Finance, and several of the Consular Corps. His Majesty arrived on board about six, and remained till eleven o'clock, P. M. During the evening, after dinner, the theatrical company of the *Republic* gave an exhibition, which afforded much amusement to the guests. On leaving, the ship was lit up with blue lights, presenting a most brilliant appearance, as though the entire rigging and spars were one mass of lights, while the reflection lighted the sea for miles around.

On Saturday evening His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs entertained at dinner His Majesty the King, Admiral Hillyar, and other invited guests.

On Sunday last, His Majesty the King, the Queen Dowager, and a number of ladies and gentlemen attended divine service on board the flag-ship *Republic*.

The Currency.

Whatever may be the causes that are disturbing our currency, one thing must be apparent to all—that the amount of coin in circulation is constantly decreasing. The gold coins having mostly disappeared, either by exportation or by being hoarded, the export demand calls for the next most available coin, which are American dollars. It has been stated that some thirty thousand dollars in gold and silver were taken away by the *Costa Rica*. This estimate is undoubtedly too large, and she may not have taken more than half that sum. As high as 2 1/2 per cent. premium was paid for \$20 gold coins, or \$20.50 in silver for \$20 in gold. The result of this specie drain, if continued, will be that we shall be forced to resort to some substitute; and as bank bills are cheap, these may, from necessity, soon become our circulating medium.

We have been asked, what are the causes which are tending to this change? They are as simple as those which cause the scarcity of any other article. Gold formerly constituted a considerable part of our currency. The Legislature passed a law making American half dollars our standard coin; in other words, it attempted to provide a permanent silver currency, by enacting that forty halves shall have the same value as a twenty dollar gold piece, when in reality there is but thirty to fifty cents difference. This was done despite the protest of at least one of the local journals. The law operated, as predicted, almost immediately to drive the gold out of circulation, and business is now conducted here on a silver basis, which is worth from 3/4 to 4 per cent. less than gold, according as we take American halves or French five-franc pieces in the estimate. The law referred to has apparently helped to accomplish this end. Formerly the only time of the year when money was scarce here was during the whaling season; now, we see it scarce at all seasons.

A New York paper takes the currency question in America to a farmer having a good horse. Seized upon an economical turn, he swaps his horse for a mule. The mule may do all the hard farm work of the horse, still he is not so valuable nor useful for all work and if at any time he wishes the horse back, he must pay the difference in the cost. No man will give him a horse for a mule. So, in the United States, if the valuable horse—the gold currency—is ever to be restored, in place of the greenback mule for which it is unwittlingly exchanged, the difference in price must be paid, cost what it will.

Now, to follow up the simile, we have exchanged our gold horse for a less valuable silver mule, and we cannot expect to get the horse back without paying the cost. If on the other hand, we decide to adopt a still more economical circulating medium, and exchange our mule for a jackass, we shall only get deeper into this currency embarrassment, and find we have adopted what is really the most expensive system which we could introduce. Our only proper course now is to get back to a gold basis, just as soon as possible. The mule is very serviceable in his place; but we can never get along without the horse.

The Fifteenth Amendment

To the Constitution of the United States provides that no citizen of the Republic shall ever be barred the right to vote, on account of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." As popularly understood, it is a law designed to destroy the spirit of caste which still prevails so extensively in the United States, and to secure equal as well as civil and political equality to all American citizens, without distinction of race or color. It does not apply to the negro any more than to the Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish creoles and Polynesians, who may become American citizens—it includes all, and was intended to secure to all the same political and civil privileges within the bounds of the Republic. Unfortunately the spirit of caste—that which the white man is superior to his brother who possesses a dark skin—prevails in every country, not excepting Hawaii itself. It was to combat this antiseptic spirit of Caucasian superiority, which says to its neighbor, "stand aside, I am better than thou"—to remove these prejudices of caste among us, and to show to Hawaiians that some wish to practice the Christian spirit of equality in social matters as well as in business, that the revisions referred to last week were originated, and have been continued for three years. They bring together a few of the more intelligent Hawaiians, that such foreigners as desire to become more acquainted with them, and do not feel above them might meet them, and show them that they desire to associate with them and become better acquainted. If there was more of this brotherly spirit shown here between foreigners and Hawaiians, it would be better for all. This is the spirit of the "Fifteenth amendment," as it is also the spirit of the gospel of peace.

New Zealand

In just waking up to the fact that the Webb line caused an annual saving to the Colony of about two hundred thousand dollars. The Auckland *Star* furnishes the following statement, showing most conclusively the advantages of a contract for mail service via San Francisco:

"Regarding the cost of the mail service, the following figures will show the difference between the current payments and those of some years preceding the San Francisco contract:

1863.....	£71,907
1864.....	78,022
1865.....	81,037
1866.....	82,006
1867.....	84,007
1868.....	87,000
1869.....	89,000
1870.....	91,000
1871.....	93,000
1872, half year to June 30.....	22,463

"Comparing the four years' payments for overseas mail services ending with 1872, and those ending with 1868, the following result is shown:

Four years ended with 1868.....	£316,020
Four years ended with 1872.....	177,571

Difference in favor of latter period.....£138,449

"This, too, while New Zealand had the advantage of the *Suez* service also. It appears that during the time Webb's steamers have been running, which is scarcely yet two years complete, the amount of money expended in the Colony by the company was about £37,000. That speaks of trade advantages of a certain kind by no means to be despised; but it is only a small one as compared with those which arise from the connection of the Colony with the United States, and to which reference has more than once been made."

The War in Sumatra.

We find in an English paper a statement professing to give the position of affairs at present in Sumatra. It is evidently from Dutch authority, and doubtless gives the most favorable show for them which can be made. The deputy-governor of Sumatra, Mr. Neunhagen, has been despatched to Atchin to induce the Sultan to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Dutch over his province as is done by the Sultans in the other provinces of the island. The Dutch Government consider it absolutely necessary for their prestige that they should be acknowledged masters. That gained, nothing more will be done except that a fort will be built at Atchin to keep and overawe unruly chiefs. There will be no interference with, or interruption of, trade, and everything will go on as heretofore. The latest news at Batavia from Atchin is said to be that the envoy was progressing satisfactorily in his negotiations, and that the Sultan would most likely concede all the Dutch demands, permit the building of the fort, and pay all the expense of the expedition, which, however, it was intended to send, whatever turn affairs took; it being desirable to make such a display of force as will convince the Achinese of the utter futility of all resistance.

Pearl Harbor in England.

We stated, some two weeks since, that a letter had been received here from Europe, giving the outline of a debate on the interposition in the House of Commons regarding the proposed cession of Pearl Harbor to the United States. In a Boston paper we find the following report of what took place, which is probably correct:

"In the British House of Commons, on March 27, Mr. St. John asked Lord Edford whether the United States were about to obtain an important harbor and coaling station in the Sandwich Islands, and whether an effort was to be made to obtain similar advantages for England. Lord Edford replied that there was a party, consisting of members of the mercantile community, in the Sandwich Islands who were favorable to the cession of Pearl Harbor to the United States, in exchange for certain commercial concessions. He believed the Government of Great Britain did not contemplate any similar steps to those of the United States."

The American Currency System

Is every year evoking more and more hostility from leading statesmen, who consider that a return to a specie basis can be effected whenever Congress declares it shall be done. At a recent banquet of the New York Chamber of Commerce, General Hawley, recently elected Representative from Connecticut, referred to the currency question in the following language:

"I don't believe, and he, in a lying paper currency. That which we have in our pockets says the United States will pay one dollar, five dollars or ten dollars for it; but the United States has not done so within ten years, and it doesn't try to do so. We are waiting, it is said, for the country to grow up to hard money. Meantime there is not a branch of interest that is not suffering. The manufacturer suffers, the importer suffers, the Western farmer suffers, and the mechanics and laborers suffer. We need a fixed and stable currency. The interests of the industries demand it."

In some comments on the above, the New York *Shipping List* concludes as follows:—"The principal obstacle to a resumption of specie payments thus far, has been the dread of a shrinkage in values, which, in view of the always heavy debt interest, is quite natural; but then there is a redeeming consideration, and it is this: the restoration to a sound currency would reinstate business on a firm basis, and greatly frustrate the evil designs of speculators, by requiring every man to risk a dollar of his own when he undertakes to gamble for the property of his neighbor."

A New Press.

Our enterprising neighbors, Messrs. Black & Auld, of the *Advertiser*, have lately imported and set up a single cylinder Hoe press, for newspaper work, which is the finest piece of machinery of the kind ever seen west of California. The press has not yet been set to work, but will be in a few days. It cost some \$2,500, and is capable of printing 1000 impressions a per hour with steam, which will probably be the next improvement introduced. Although the printing business in Honolulu does not increase here so rapidly as it ought to, still for the amount of business done, no place of its size can show better presses or material for executing it than this city. When we left New York twenty-three years since, the edition of the leading city dailies reached ten and sometimes twelve thousand copies. The New York *Herald* of Sunday May 4, claimed that its edition for that day amounted to 150,000 copies. Each number consisted of twenty pages, that is, one hundred and twenty columns, of which seventy-eight were advertisements and forty-two reading matter. The *Herald* says:

"A detail which will be perfectly new to non-professionals is, that to produce one hundred and fifty thousand full copies, it was necessary to take six hundred thousand impressions. To accomplish this, in the short time allowed, five rotary Hoe presses of eight and ten cylinders each, and two Bullock perfecting presses were kept rolling off one thousand impressions per minute. To drive those large presses, two engines of eighty horse power are kept in motion by turning six tons of coal in the furnaces. To turn the stereotype plates for the figures, two tons of type metal were melted down to cast one hundred and forty-eight plates, weighing when finished and dressed, thirty-eight pounds each. The ink on a single copy would not be taken into consideration by the average observer, but it required seven hundred and twenty-five pounds to keep the rollers prepared to leave the impression of their kisses on the eighteen million sheets of paper that were to glow at daylight with news. And those rollers were composed of five hundred pounds of steel mingled with one thousand pounds of brass. The three pieces—the paper on which all this is printed—there are eighty men and boys about the press, handling it. Stood by about it is pushed by the feeders, until seventeen tons, or thirty-four thousand pounds, are printed on both sides. If you were to pile those sheets one upon the other, they would make a monument one hundred and twenty feet high."

What a change twenty years has wrought—from 10,000 copies the daily demand has risen to 150,000. We hazard little in saying that the change during the next twenty years will be even greater. Then we shall see daily illustrated papers, giving pictures of disasters which occurred only the day before on the opposite side of the globe. How it will be done, remains to be seen.

The French Crisis.

Which, at the latest previous crisis, appeared to be ripening, resulted in a change of administration on the 24th of May, as we anticipated it might, in our issue of June 11. President Thiers finding that the majority in the Assembly demanded of him more than he could concede, resigned, and the Assembly immediately elected Gen. McMahon, one of the Marshals of France, under the late Empire, who at once accepted the position. The choice was made by a majority of the assembly, the conservative or Monarchical party only voting, the Republicans declining to vote. The present majority is believed not to represent the popular sentiment in France, since the election took place two years since. It was the wish of Thiers and the Republicans to appeal to the people and elect a new assembly. But the party, which held a small majority of about 22 in a house of seven hundred members, refused to make any change. As President McMahon, though Monarchical, is not believed to be less difficult in governing than Thiers, we soon drift into a monarchy, despite the popular choice. That affairs are not quietly settled in France is evident from the feeling of distrust in Germany, which moves very cautiously in the matter of recognizing the new administration.

A Sketch of Olden Times.

The recent visit of the U. S. S. *Portsmouth* has already called out one sketch of the Mexican war and the capture of San Francisco, in which she was engaged. Mr. J. Watson, who served on the U. S. S. *Warren*, has sent us the following sketch of what he saw, at that time:

"This made the third cruise of the old *Portsmouth* around this part of the world. She arrived at Callao, Peru, between twenty-seven and twenty-eight years ago, commanded by Capt. Montgomery, making a passage from the States to Callao, in sixty-four days, stopping at Rio Janeiro twenty-four hours. At the commencement of the Mexican war, she was ordered to go in to San Francisco, and hoist the American flag. When she arrived, Capt. Montgomery found General Castro there with a thousand men. Capt. Montgomery landed with two hundred men, and himself at the head of them. Gen. Castro left the place without firing a shot, and Capt. Montgomery raised the American flag with his own hands and then he built a fort on Clarke's Point, and mounted twenty-four guns. He also built a large block-house at the head of Montgomery street, and on this he put a twenty-four pounder, to protect the place within three miles around. Lieutenant Bartlett was sent ashore as Police Justice of San Francisco. We were sent from Monterey by Commodore Stockton to relieve the *Portsmouth*. When we got in to Frisco, I was sent ashore, with fourteen men, to take command of the block-house, and Lieutenant Bartlett, with a hundred men, was sent to take charge of the Barracks. All the crew of the *Portsmouth* that was ashore was sent aboard, except Lieutenant Bartlett, who still remained ashore. The next day they got ready for sea, and the fourth day they sailed. She did not return again that year. This occurred about the latter end of October, 1846. It was some time after, when the *Warren's* launch sailed up to Sacramento, with a crew of fifteen men, and three officers. Two of these officers, were Capt. Montgomery's own sons. One of them was sailing master of the *Warren*, and the other was a young midshipman. The whole crew belonged to the *Warren*. She had on board fourteen stands of arms, sixteen Roman swords and a dozen and a half of ships pistols, and a great quantity of round ball cartridges, for the purpose of musket and pistols. Officers all had side arms, and brace of pistols likewise, and \$3,000 in cash.—We heard that she passed where Benicia is now, next morning. A day or two after she left, Lieut. Bartlett was taken prisoner, with five seamen, by the Mexicans, and he was kept prisoner till the 30th day of January, 1847. The *Warren's* launch was gone several weeks, and not a word from her. Capt. Holt sent Mr. Wiley in search of her. After an absence of a couple of weeks, he came back, and reported that he could not find the launch nor hear a word from her. He was well acquainted with the Spanish language. There was no other word in search of the launch but him. Soon after, about the 30th of January, Lieut. Bartlett was released, and sent back to his own duty, as Police Judge. In the month of March, the sloop-of-war *Preble* came in, and released us. We went down to the bay of Monterey, where we found three Commodores—Commodores Biddle, Shubrick, and Stockton, and plenty of volunteers that came out by land, and here we stayed till October, 1847, and I was discharged and then I come down to these Islands."

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cellent in adding grace and giving proper development. The Hawaiian language seems to require more critical teaching in the grammar. The English Composition is not so good as the Committee desire to see. Of the specimens offered for competition, the Committee have chosen the composition entitled "A Glance at the Past and Present of Hawaii," as the one most deserving of the prize; but they hope that if prizes are offered again, there will be more than one, and that the writers who compete will be required to send to the Committee their Compositions, without signature, the week previous to the public examination.

Many of the pupils have evidently striven to improve their tones of voice and their enunciation; but great attention to these matters is needed by the majority. A clear, distinct voice and manner of speech, is the one thing especially needed. Pupils, in reciting, should not answer with averted faces, carefully looking around the room, but looking directly towards the instructor.

The deportment and conduct were generally good, although in some instances there was room to improve in matters of courtesy and gentleness. The Exhibition on the evening of the 19th was a decided success. There was a pleasing variety in the themes for declamation and dialogue, embracing the comic, the tragic, the historic, the descriptive, the poetic, the didactic, and the moral. From beginning to end, the exercises were well sustained, and with this happy feature, that they were not tedious or dull. One exercise succeeded another with promptness and vivacity. The life-current flowed freely in the veins of the youthful speakers, and the responses of the assembly showed the electric sympathy which passed from speakers to hearers. There was, of course, no little diversity in the manner as in the matter of the speakers. The Committee found it difficult to decide to whom to award the single premium at their disposal. Had three or four premiums been in their hands, there would have been less difficulty in awarding. They selected, however, the declamation of Clarence W. Cooke as the most praiseworthy, and desire especially to commend the brothers Peteron.

The Music was an interesting part of the exercises. It was vocal and instrumental, consisting of solo, quartettes, and full choruses. Much praise is due to the accomplished teacher for her labors in this delightful art, and the Committee earnestly encourage all the students of Music, both vocal and instrumental, to pursue with industry and practice with enthusiasm and patience. Without mentioning names or making minute specifications, the Committee would say that these exercises were of great interest to them, personally, and there was evidence that they were highly appreciated by the very large assembly present.

ALEX. MACKINTOSH,
TITUS COAN,
D. HALDWIN.

Honolulu, H. I., June 23, 1873.

For the Hawaiian Gazette.

Paradise in the Pacific.
BY W. R. BILLS.

I can see no reason why Mr. Bille should have written this book. He begins in his preface to disparage the Islands and their inhabitants, and this disparagement goes on through the book. He says: "The book is small; but so is the country, and so are the people of which it treats, while it is really larger than the importance of that country to any possible future of commerce or civilization."

Thus he compares the size of his book with the importance of the Hawaiian Islands; and, in his opinion, it is larger. Does he mean that his book has a greater importance than these Islands?

He proceeds to say, "The Hawaiian Islands have occasionally attracted the attention of the American people on account of a political value which they are supposed to possess by their position. They have had the reputation of lying directly in the path of everything that sails on the Pacific Ocean. This reputation they have not deserved; for they are actually remote from the track of all commercial ships, except those carrying coals from Australia to California; and these rarely pass within sight of the group."

What he means by "political" value, which the Islands are supposed to possess, I cannot tell; but the reader will soon find that he does not discriminate very much in the use of his epithets and modifying words; e. g., "The flag stream out their colors furiously." He speaks of the merchants reading their newspapers "with listless interest." "Rory Historians have described him as an Alexander." "Then he and she (Kamehameha II, and his wife) indignantly drove the measles." He calls John Young "the Pilgrim Father of the country."

He says in the preface, "I venture to think that my book, small as it is, contains all that the reader can desire to know of the people and things in that curious pin-head Kingdom of the Pacific, and in its very pleasant capital city of Honolulu."

What vanity and complacency crop out here! Big game, and Dibble, and Jarvis, and Anderson, and Clever, and others, have published books concerning these Islands; and much has been written about the climate, and productions, and mountains, and volcanic eruptions, and much about the inhabitants; and what is there in Bille's book that the world did not know before? Through he may endeavor to give the impression that he visited the leper settlement on Muloak, and Mauna Loa, on Hawaii, yet he never saw the leper settlement, nor Mauna Loa. His descriptions are taken from other writers without acknowledgment. Occasionally, he introduces a sentence from imagination, as when he tells about riding down the precipitous to the leper colony. "The horses step out and gallop rapidly." Yes, but no forerunner had ventured down on horseback since the land-slide years ago.

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THE TOTTAGE, No. 41 ALAKA ST., on the premises of the Undertaker. It can be furnished or unfurnished. Apply to WILLIAM BARBOCK.

Real Estate for Sale.

THE PREMISES OF THE UNDER-DEVELOPMENT, situated on Fort Street. Terms of sale, \$100,000. Possession given in September. 439 im.

Notice.

DURING MY ABSENCE FROM THE KINGDOM, THOMAS A. LEVY will act for me in all matters of business, under a Power of Attorney. Honolulu, June 17, 1873. K. KIRILING.

Notice.

THE BIENNIAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE Queen's Hospital Corporation, will take place at the Court House, on SATURDAY, the 12th of JULY, 1873, at noon. Per Order, F. A. SCHAEFER, Secretary. Honolulu, June 11, 1873.

Salmon, Salmon, Salmon!

JUST RECEIVED PER LAST SHIP, a large quantity of Salmon, a lot of Salmon! In Splendid Order.

To Let.

The Brick Building on Queen Street, now occupied by F. S. Pratt, Esq. Possession given on the 1st day of July next. For terms apply to W. C. PARKER.

For Victoria, B. C.

THE FINE A-1 BRITISH CLIPPER BARQUE WINDERMERE.

935 Tons Register. YEAMAN SALMON. Is now due from Liverpool, and will have quick dispatch for the above Port. Per Order, THOMAS H. DAVIES, Agent. For Freight or Passage, apply to 438 im.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.